

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
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USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 2221

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC
SUBJECT: DRC MEETING ON DRAFT DPC MINISTERIAL AGENDA; MINISTERIAL
GUIDANCE; FLEXIBILITY STUDIES

REF: (A) STATE 083610 (DTG 140035Z APR 77-NOTAL); (B) STATE 084812
(DTG 150041Z APR 77-NOTAL); (C) USNATO 2194 (DTG 151146Z
APR 77-NOTAL); (D) USNATO 2185 (DTG 150525Z APR 77-NOTAL);
(E) USNATO 1889 (DTG 011458Z APR 77-NOTAL).

SUMMARY: IN THE DRC MEETING OF 15 APRIL, THE US WAS ISOLATED
IN ITS PROPOSAL CONCERNING AN EARLY RESTRICTED SESSION AT THE
DPC MINISTERIAL AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE NATO SUMMIT; PERMREPS
WILL ADDRESS THE AGENDA ON 22 APRIL. THE DRC AGREED TO CONSIDER
THE DESIRABILITY OF AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF MINISTERIAL
GUIDANCE 1977 WHEN THE DRC RESUMES ITS REVIEW OF THE CURRENT
DRAFT DURING THE WEEK OF 18 APRIL. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON
GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. THE DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE MET INFORMALLY ON 15 APRIL TO
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DISCUSS THE (A) DRAFT DPC MINISTERIAL AGENDA, (B) DRC WORK
SCHEDULE FOR REVIEW OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977 DURING
WEEK OF 18 APRIL, AND (C) CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT NOTE ON DRC
FLEXIBILITY ITEMS.

2. DPC MINISTERIAL AGENDA. THE CHAIRMAN (MUMFORD) INTRO-
DUCED THIS ITEM BY NOTING THAT A DPC PERMREPS MEETING
WAS SCHEDULED FOR 22 APRIL TO REVIEW THE AGENDA.

A. RESTRICTED SESSION. PURSUANT TO REFS A AND B,

US REP (BADER) SAID THAT THE DPC MINISTERIAL CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM THE LONDON SUMMIT AND THAT THIS CONTINUITY NEEDED TO BE REFLECTED IN THE AGENDA. HE PROPOSED THAT THE RESTRICTED SESSION BE SCHEDULED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE AGENDA AS A KEYNOTE ITEM, BEING SUBTITLED "FOLLOW-UP TO THE NATO SUMMIT," AND THAT MINISTERIAL DECISIONS BE RECORDED. THOUGH NO ONE OBJECTED TO THE NEED FOR A RESTRICTED SESSION PER SE, THE UK (PETERS), FRG (WELZ), CANADA (OLSON), AND TURKEY (OZCERI) OBJECTED TO THE US PROPOSAL FOR THE FOLLOWING STATED REASONS:

- AN EARLY RESTRICTED SESSION WOULD DESTROY THE CONTINUITY AND DETRACT FROM THE IMPORTANCE OF THE AGENDA, PARTICULARLY MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE.

- RESTRICTED SESSION SHOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE LIMITED TO THE SUMMIT, BUT BE FREE-RANGING.

- IT WAS PREMATURE TO ASSUME THAT ANY FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS WOULD BE REQUIRED, UNLIKELY THAT MINISTERS COULD RESPOND SO QUICKLY, AND PRESUMPTUOUS TO CONTEMPLATE RECORDING DECISIONS SINCE NONE WERE LIKELY TO EMERGE.

- THE SUMMIT WOULD HAVE TO BE ADDRESSED SOMEWHERE DURING THE MEETING, BUT IT WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE TO DO SO UNDER OTHER AGENDA ITEMS AND PARTICULARLY IN PLENARY SESSION SO THAT THE PRESS COULD BE INFORMED.

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THE CHAIRMAN SUMMARIZED THE DISCUSSION, NOTING A CLEAR CONSENSUS AGAINST THE US PROPOSAL AND A PREFERENCE FOR SCHEDULING THE RESTRICTED SESSION WITHOUT A SUBTITLE ON THE SECOND DAY. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE US MIGHT WISH TO RETURN TO THIS DURING THE 22 APRIL PERMREPS' DISCUSSION. AT THE REQUEST OF THE US REP, IT WAS AGREED THAT THE US PROPOSAL BE INCLUDED IN THE COVERING NOTE FORWARDING THE DRAFT PO ON THE MINISTERIAL AGENDA TO PERMREPS, SO THAT THEY WOULD HAVE THE BENEFIT OF GUIDANCE FROM CAPITALS FOR THEIR 22 APRIL MEETING. COMMENT: EARLY NEXT WEEK, WE WILL CONDUCT INTENSIVE BILATERAL CORRIDOR WORK, INCLUDING WITH SYG LUNS, DESIGNED TO PERSUADE THE NATIONS WHICH ISOLATED US ON THIS MATTER AT THE 15 APRIL MEETING TO CHANGE THEIR VIEWS IN TIME FOR REGISTRATION AT THE 22 APRIL PERMREP MEETING. END COMMENT.

B. HARMONIZATION OF EQUIPMENT PROGRAMS (III).
AT THE REQUEST OF UK REP, THE CHAIRMAN AGREED TO VERIFY WHETHER THE REFERENCE NOTED AS PO/76/130(REVISED) SHOULD BE CHANGED TO DPC/D(76)33. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT THE AGENDA ITEM ON AWACS SHOULD BE MADE A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM (NEW ITEM IV) AND THAT THE ASYG (DEFENSE SUPPORT) WOULD PROVIDE A REPORT AS THE REFERENCE DOCUMENT.

C. INFRASTRUCTURE (III.D.) AT THE REQUEST OF THE ASYG(DEFENSE SUPPORT), IT WAS AGREED TO CARRY BRACKETS ON THIS ITEM PENDING THE RESULTS OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING NEXT WEEK. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT THE DOCUMENT INTRODUCING THIS ITEM SHOULD BE PREPARED BY ASYG(DEFENSE SUPPORT).

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 2221

3. DRC WORK SCHEDULE ON MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. IN INTRODUCING DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT, THE CHAIRMAN ASKED FOR VIEWS ON WHETHER AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE SHOULD BE PREPARED OR SIMPLY TREATED IN THE COMMUNIQUE, OR BOTH. THE UK, TURKEY AND THE FRG, WERE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE BECAUSE, BY ITS NATURE, IT WOULD HAVE TO BE A "MEANINGLESS PATCHWORK" AND WOULD SET AN UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT FOR THE FUTURE. BESIDES, THE FRG REP ADDED, IT WAS DONE FOR MG-75 ONLY BECAUSE THERE WAS SOMETHING NEW, THE LONG-RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT, AND NOTHING HAD BEEN ACHIEVED IN THE LAST TWO YEARS. THE US REP, SUPPORTED BY DENMARK, EXPRESSED PERSONAL SUPPORT FOR AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION ON THE BASIS THAT IT WOULD SERVE TO EDUCATE PUBLICS AND PARLIAMENTS, WOULD DEMONSTRATE CONTINUITY BETWEEN THE SUMMIT AND MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, AND PROBABLY RECEIVE GREATER PRESS ATTENTION AS A RESULT OF INTEREST IN THE NATO SUMMIT. THE CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED THAT THE IS PREPARE ON A TENTATIVE BASIS
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AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION FOR THE COMMITTEE'S

CONSIDERATION DURING THE WEEK OF 18 APRIL, AND THE DECISION COULD BE TAKEN AT THAT TIME WHETHER IT WOULD BE BETTER SIMPLY TO INCLUDE IMPORTANT PASSAGES IN THE COMMUNIQUE. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE DRC WOULD MEET ON 18 APRIL TO CONSIDER THE LATEST DRAFT OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE PROVIDED DELEGATIONS HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS.

4. DRC FLEXIBILITY ITEMS. IT WAS AGREED TO POSTPONE ANY SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF THE CHAIRMAN'S NOTE UNTIL THE DRC MEETING ON 20 APRIL.

5. COMMENT: RE PARA 2(A) ABOVE, FOLLOWING THE MEETING, MUMFORD INFORMED US THAT LUNS HAD AGREED TO INCLUDE IN THE PO, ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE, THE GENERAL QUESTION OF THE NEED FOR HANDLING A FOLLOW-UP TO THE NATO SUMMIT IN THE AGENDA AND TO POSE THE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS OF WHETHER IT SHOULD BE COVERED IN THE RESTRICTED OR PLENARY SESSIONS, WHETHER THE RESTRICTED SESSION SHOULD BE SCHEDULED FOR THE FIRST OR SECOND DAY, AND WHETHER DECISIONS SHOULD BE RECORDED FOR THE RESTRICTED SESSION. WE WILL STILL DO OUR CORRIDOR WORK, AS NOTED IN PARA 2(A) ABOVE. END COMMENT.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE. STRAUSZ-HUPE

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